March 9, 2010

SC Public Service Commission 101 Executive Center Drive, Ste. 100 Columbia, SC 29210

Re: Docket 2009-489-E

Dear Commission Members:

I want to go on record as vehemently opposing the rate hike recently proposed by SCE&G. This company has a long, long history of gouging their customer base and this request for a rate hike is just another "business as usual" ruse. South Carolinians are in survival mode and the majority of us who still have jobs have suffered pay decreases, furloughs, losses in 401-K and health benefits because of the state of our economy. Where is the spirit of "we're all in this together" with SCE&G?....it simply doesn't work that way. They operate as the monopolistic elitist energy provider who feels no guilt in continually raising rates. The usual reasons apply: "cold weather, hot weather, nuclear plants construction, blah, blah"....they've continually made huge profits and returned nothing to the community. Let's have a public record of their executives and employees being stripped of 20% of their salary, loss of 401-K contributions by the company, loss of employee health benefits and/or reductions to match what the general public has suffered. Perhaps those changes will provide them with sufficient funds to fuel their "projects".

You are charged with protecting the public against this type of "business" in South Carolina and I fervently hope that you seriously consider refusing this rate increase as completely inappropriate at this time and place. Thank you.

Sincerely,

June Thomas Hedges

1/21 Linkside Court Chapin, SC 29036